



# Rugged Report

14th Combat Engineer Battalion FRG Command

Letter



Volume I Issue I

August 2004

## RUGGED 6 Corner...

RUGGED! Welcome to the first installment of the RUGGED REPORT, a monthly 14<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer Battalion Family Readiness Group (FRG) Command Letter. I plan on publishing this every month as a forum to distribute vital information out to the families. So look for it in your mailbox the first week of every month.

I want to thank everyone for the fantastic transition and warm welcome you gave my wife Lisa and I into the RUGGED Battalion. As I stated at my Change of Command ceremony, we are truly honored and humbled to have the opportunity to serve the RUGGEDs. We will dedicate our time and energy to the care of the troopers and their families.

I am glad to have the fortunate situation of stepping into a very experienced and established Family Readiness Group. As you all have recently experienced, you know family readiness is an essential part to the Battalion's overall readiness program. I would like to capitalize on the experience that resides in the Battalion to move the FRG to even greater heights and remain a real value-added asset for troopers and their families.

As I took command of the Battalion, we were in the middle of assuming duties as Northern Command's Quick Reaction Force. Our Nation called on the Rugged Battalion and we answered the call. We had to be prepared to deploy anywhere in the United States within 24 hours of notification to defend our Homeland against any threat or attack. What a challenging and rewarding mission - our troopers did a magnificent job. I know it meant some significant changes to the way you lived such a short time after your spouses returned from IRAQ and I want to thank you for all of your support to that very important mission.

August will bring a couple of Battalion training events. A short trip to Yakima

Training Center 19-23 August for demolition and mine training followed by

Platoon External Evaluations the 10<sup>th</sup> Fort Lewis from 22-30 August. The purpose is to finish our Rugged "Return to Readiness."

We will be available in the evenings and

It will be our first opportunity to have the RUGGED combat veterans pass on their invaluable experience in a field environment to all of us new guys. We will exercise the FRG phone trees during our deployment, so please ensure you update your contact information with your company FRG leader. I look forward to working and meeting all of you.

Have a great August! RUGGED! LTC Michael W. Brobeck

## FRG Leader's Corner

After traveling cross-country for 9 days, we are happy to be out of the car and on stable ground in Fort Lewis. The 14<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Change of Command ceremony was on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 1400hrs. I would like to thank everyone who attended the ceremony and took the time to welcome us. I would also like to thank all of the people who helped with the ceremony and reception. Special thanks to CSM Mabini, SFC Thompson, SSG Horne, and all the soldiers who set up the reception hall. It looked wonderful and made my life much easier!!

The FRG (family readiness group) is strong in the 14<sup>th</sup>, and is getting stronger. Each company has leaders and co-leaders, but they can always use extra helpers. Contact your company representatives, and get to know them. They are a great resource to the unit and can provide you with valuable information about the post, the unit, childcare or whatever you may need. If you are new to the battalion, and haven't been contacted by the FRG, please let them know. We want everyone to be contacted and welcomed within several days of arriving.

June and July have been great! I expect that August will be the same. I've been warned about the rainy season, but being from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, (Steeler Country!) I know I can handle

it! I look forward to meeting the soldiers and families of the Rugged Battalion. Thank you for welcoming us into the Rugged family! Enjoy the summer!

## Upcoming Events

10 AUG @ 1000: 14<sup>th</sup> CEB FRG Steering Committee

19-23 AUG: Demolitinos and Mine training at the the Yakima Training Center

22-31 AUG: Platoon EXEVALS here on Ft. Lewis

1-31 Train up for the 18 Ruggeds who will attend

The Sapper Leader Course 4 September - 4 October at

Ft. Leonard Wood, MO.

# HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

14<sup>TH</sup> COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION (C) (W)

## FRG Command Letter, August 2004



Contact Numbers: Company Commander: CPT Heather Maginn (253) 966-3096  
(253) 064 9366

FRG Leader - Gina Arnold

### Hello Renegade families and Welcome to all our new soldiers and their families:

I would like to announce that our FRG has had some turn-over with leaders. Our new leaders and their positions are as follows:

FRG Leader: Gina Arnold

FRG Co-Leader: Mary Malone

FRG Co-Leader: Shannon Ruckman

Secretary: Holly Bushnell

Treasurer: Ann Santos

Our current fundraiser coordinator is PCSing so we will need a new person. If you wish to volunteer for this position please contact us or let us know at our meetings.

Graduates (L-R):

SGT Girardin, SPC

Scott, SPC

Roland, SGT

Guzman, SPC

Holguin, SPC

Augustave, CPL

Ramos



PLDC July 2004

### Promotions:

PFC Michael Rodriguez to SPC

PFC Victoria Hooker to SPC

PFC Michael Minicola to SPC

PFC Jacob Bibeau to SPC

PFC Bill Jones to SPC

PFC Jamie Smith to SPC

### Re-enlistments:

Congratulations to all military families who will continue to be so, due to the following re-enlistments:

SSG James Ryan, SGT Edmund Saldarini, SGT Svonda Dorsey, SPC James Smithson, SPC Talitiga Aetonu, SPC Jeremy Norwood, SPC Richard Barajas, SPC Donald Forte

We are proud of these individuals choice to

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

August will be a very busy month. Be prepared for your spouse to be out of the house from 17-30 August. We will be participating in a field exercise. The first week of the exercise will be at the Yakima Training Center, while the second week will take place here at Ft Lewis.

September will be a little more relaxing by starting off with a long four day weekend to celebrate labor day from 3-6 September. The next two weeks will in compass recovering our equipment from the field. From 17-20 September your soldier can expect to enjoy another long weekend off. This four day is a comp day to the field exercise where we will work through the weekends.

### Next FRG Meeting: 17 August 2004

(Our meetings are held the third Tuesdays of the month at 1830 in the battalion classroom.)

### Announcements:

CONGRATULATIONS to

Family from Support

Platoon. James and

Kelly have a proud

addition to the

Ellora



Ellora was born 6 July, weighing 6 lbs 10 oz. They

will be PCSing to

Ft Gordon, Georgia shortly to begin their new tour.

To all the spouses, please continue to support your soldier as much as possible and thanks for all that you do. Warmest Regards,

CPT Heather Maginn, 1CC Tony Santos, Gina